

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Christopher J. Norman et al.
For : CHAIR WITH FUNCTIONAL ARMREST

Mail Stop Patent Application
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 CFR §1.97(b)

Pursuant to 37 CFR §§1.56 and 1.97(b), Applicants bring to the attention of the Examiner the document listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the filing date of the above-referenced application.

A copy of the listed foreign patent documents is attached. As the Office has waived the requirement under 37 CFR §1.98(a)(2)(i) for submitting a copy of each cited U.S. patent and each U.S. patent application publication, a copy of the listed U.S. patents is not included with the submission of attached Form PTO 1449. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the listed documents and evidence that consideration by making appropriate notations on the attached form.

English abstracts of the non-English documents are enclosed.

The following is a concise statement of relevance of the non-English language documents.

1. DE 29809099 U1 appears to disclose an armrest.
2. DE 29901666 U1 appears to disclose an armrest.
3. DE 29508429 U1 appears to disclose an armrest.
4. DE 29910250 U1 appears to disclose an armrest.
5. DE 8814053 U1 appears to disclose an armrest.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If it should be determined that any of the listed documents do not

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constitute "prior art" under United States law, Applicants reserve the right to present to the Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

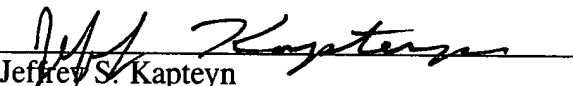
If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 16-2463.

Respectfully submitted,

CHRISTOPHER J. NORMAN ET AL.

By: Price, Heneveld, Cooper,
DeWitt & Litton, LLP

2/27/04
Date


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FORM PTO-1449 (Rev. 2-32)	U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE	ATTY. DOCKET NO.	SERIAL NO.
		STE01 P-1165	
		APPLICANT Christopher J. Norman et al.	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use several sheets if necessary)		FILING DATE	GROUP

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	6 5 8 8 8 4 7	07/08/2003	Murakami			
	6 5 5 4 3 6 4	04/29/2003	Dammermann et al.			
	6 5 4 0 3 0 0	04/01/2003	Piretti			
	6 5 2 3 8 9 8	02/25/2003	Ball et al.			
	2 0 0 3 0 0 3 0 3 1 7	02/13/2003	Chen			
	2 0 0 3 0 0 2 5 3 7 8	02/06/2003	Lin			
	2 0 0 3 0 0 2 0 3 1 0	01/30/2003	Stumpf et al.			
	6 5 0 2 9 0 4	10/08/2002	Kopish et al.			
	6 4 6 0 9 3 2	10/08/2002	Kopish et al.			
	2 0 0 2 0 0 7 4 8 4 4	06/20/2002	Klingstedt et al.			
	2 0 0 2 0 0 7 0 5 9 8	06/13/2002	Perl			
	6 3 9 4 5 5 3	05/28/2002	McAllister et al.			
	2 0 0 2 0 0 4 3 8 6 2	04/18/2002	Piretti			
	2 0 0 2 0 0 3 6 4 2 2	03/28/2002	Prince et al.			
	6 3 4 3 8 4 0	02/05/2002	Chuang			
	6 3 4 1 8 2 1	01/29/2002	Rousseau			
	6 2 9 6 3 1 2	10/02/2001	Congleton et al.			
	6 2 1 3 5 5 6	04/10/2001	Chen			
	6 2 0 9 9 6 1	04/03/2001	Chen			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
					YES	NO
1 3 1 5 1 8 6	1993	Canada				
1 0 1 3 3 1 3 2	2002	Germany				
4 2 0 4 6 3 9	1993	Germany				
1 9 9 5 9 1 0 4	2001	Germany				

OTHER DOCUMENTS (including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
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EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

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		6 2 0 9 8 4 0	04/03/2001	Chen			
		6 2 0 3 1 0 9	03/20/2001	Bergsten et al.			
		6 1 7 6 5 5 0	01/23/2001	Lamart et al.			
		6 1 4 2 5 7 0	11/07/2000	Bergsten et al.			
		6 1 3 9 1 0 7	10/31/2000	Lee			
		6 1 2 5 5 2 1	10/03/2000	Stumpf et al.			
		6 1 0 6 0 7 0	08/22/2000	Ritt et al.			
		6 0 7 6 8 9 2	06/20/2000	van Hekken et al.			
		6 0 7 6 8 9 1	06/20/2000	Bernhardt			
		6 0 7 4 0 1 2	06/13/2000	Wu			
		6 0 6 2 6 4 6	05/16/2000	Bock			
		6 0 5 9 3 6 6	05/09/2000	Hu			
		6 0 5 3 5 7 8	04/25/2000	van Hekken et al.			
		6 0 4 5 1 9 1	04/04/2000	Piretti			
		6 0 2 2 0 7 9	02/08/2000	Bergsten et al.			
		6 0 1 7 0 9 1	01/25/2000	Cao			
		5 9 7 5 6 4 0	11/02/1999	Chen			
		5 9 7 1 4 8 4	10/26/1999	Lamart et al.			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
							YES	NO
		1 9 7 1 7 0 7 7	1998	Germany				
		2 9 8 0 9 0 9 9	1999	Germany				x
		2 9 9 0 1 6 6 6	2000	Germany				x
		2 9 5 0 8 4 2 9	1996	Germany				x

OTHER DOCUMENTS (including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

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(Form PTO-1449 [6-4])

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EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
		5 9 4 4 3 8 6	08/31/1999	Yamagishi et al.			
		5 9 3 1 5 3 7	08/03/1999	Gollin et al.			
		5 9 3 1 5 3 6	08/03/1999	Wu			
		5 9 2 7 8 1 1	07/27/1999	Tseng			
		5 9 1 8 9 3 8	07/06/1999	Miotto			
		5 9 0 8 2 2 1	06/01/1999	Neil			
		5 8 9 5 0 9 5	04/20/1999	Chen			
		5 8 8 4 9 7 6	03/23/1999	Breen et al.			
		5 8 8 4 9 7 5	03/23/1999	Su			
		5 8 8 4 9 7 4	03/23/1999	Bergsten et al.			
		5 8 7 9 0 5 4	03/09/1999	Cao			
		5 8 7 6 0 9 7	03/02/1999	Cao			
		5 8 5 3 2 2 3	12/29/1998	Ritt et al.			
		5 8 4 8 8 2 3	12/15/1998	Su			
		5 8 4 5 9 6 5	12/08/1998	Heath et al.			
		5 8 3 9 7 8 6	11/24/1998	Cvek			
		5 7 8 2 5 3 6	07/21/1998	Heidmann et al.			
		5 7 7 2 2 8 2	06/30/1998	Stumpf et al.			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
							YES	NO
		2 9 9 1 0 2 5 0	1999	Germany				x
		8 8 1 4 0 5 3	1988	Germany				x
		1 1 0 6 1 1 0	2001	EPO				
		0 5 8 7 5 3 7	1994	EPO				

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		5 7 6 9 4 9 7	06/23/1998	Tsai			
		5 7 6 5 9 2 0	06/16/1998	Lai			
		5 7 5 2 6 8 3	05/19/1998	Novis et al.			
		5 7 4 9 6 2 8	05/12/1998	Synder et al.			
		5 7 3 5 5 7 7	04/07/1998	Lin			
		5 6 7 6 4 8 3	10/14/1997	Koubek			
		5 6 6 7 2 7 7	09/16/1997	Van De Riet			
		5 6 6 4 8 4 2	09/09/1997	Tseng			
		5 6 5 5 8 1 4	08/12/1997	Gibbs			
		5 6 5 1 5 8 6	07/29/1997	Groth			
		5 6 4 9 7 4 1	07/22/1997	Beggs			
		5 6 4 7 6 3 8	07/15/1997	Ritt et al.			
		5 6 4 1 2 0 3	06/24/1997	Van De Riet et al.			
		5 6 2 0 2 3 3	04/15/1997	Corwin			
		5 5 9 9 0 6 7	02/04/1997	Schuelke et al.			
		5 5 9 7 2 0 8	01/28/1997	Bonutti			
		5 5 9 7 2 0 7	01/28/1997	Bergsten et al.			
		5 5 9 0 9 3 4	01/07/1997	Gibbs			

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							YES	NO
		1 0 5 7 4 2 8	2000	EPO				
		0 8 8 0 9 2 1	1998	EPO				
		1 0 5 9 0 5 1	2000	EPO				
		0 9 6 3 7 2 1	1999	EPO				

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		5 5 8 8 7 6 6	12/31/1996	Lai			
		5 4 9 8 0 3 9	03/12/1996	Bivens			
		5 4 8 4 1 8 7	01/16/1996	Doerner et al.			
		5 4 6 2 3 3 8	10/31/1995	Baumann			
		5 4 3 9 2 6 8	08/08/1995	Dozsa-Farkas			
		5 4 3 9 2 6 7	08/08/1995	Peterson et al.			
		5 4 3 5 6 2 6	07/25/1995	Lai			
		5 4 1 5 4 5 9	05/16/1995	Schultz			
		5 4 0 7 2 4 9	04/18/1995	Bonutti			
		5 3 9 3 1 2 5	02/28/1995	Watson et al.			
		5 3 9 3 1 2 4	02/28/1995	Neil			
		5 3 8 8 8 9 2	02/14/1995	Tornero			
		5 3 8 2 0 7 9	01/17/1995	Wilson et al.			
		5 3 8 0 0 6 5	01/10/1995	Rohrer			
		5 3 6 8 3 6 5	11/29/1994	Feldberg			
		5 3 4 2 1 1 5	08/30/1994	De Filippo			
		5 3 1 8 3 4 7	06/07/1994	Tseng			
		5 2 8 1 0 0 1	01/25/1994	Bergsten et al.			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
							YES	NO
		0 1 6 6 8 7 0	1986	EPO				
		2 3 6 3 0 6 4	2001	Great Britain				
		6 2 1 2 7 0 7 1	1987	Japan				
		9 6 3 9 9 0 1	1996	PCT				

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		5 2 6 5 9 3 8	11/30/1993	Melhuish et al.			
		5 1 4 3 4 2 2	09/01/1992	Althofer et al.			
		5 0 0 9 4 6 7	04/23/1991	McCoy			
		4 9 9 7 0 5 4	03/05/1991	Denny et al.			
		4 9 6 1 6 1 0	10/09/1990	Reeder et al.			
		4 9 5 1 9 9 5	08/28/1990	Teppo et al.			
		4 8 8 1 4 2 4	11/21/1989	Clark et al.			
		4 8 4 8 8 4 0	07/18/1989	Toya			
		4 8 0 7 9 3 5	02/28/1989	King			
		4 7 8 5 1 9 0	11/15/1988	Frankema			
		4 6 7 4 7 9 0	06/23/1987	Johnson			
		4 6 5 9 1 3 5	04/21/1987	Johnson			
		4 6 1 9 4 7 8	10/28/1986	Heimnick et al.			
		4 5 7 6 3 5 1	03/18/1986	Brink			
		4 4 9 6 1 9 0	01/29/1985	Barley			
		4 4 8 9 9 8 1	12/25/1984	Goletski			
		4 3 1 1 3 3 8	01/19/1982	Moorhouse			
		4 2 7 7 1 0 2	07/07/1981	Aaras et al.			

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							YES	NO
		9 6 4 0 5 3 7	1996	PCT				
		8 6 0 3 1 6 7	1986	PCT				

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